

High-pressure cylinder failure under fire scenario – investigation of the consequences

Vojtěch Jankůj, Petr Lepík, Miroslav Mynarz, Stefan H. Spitzer and Aleš Bernatík



Introduction

Fire and
Industrial Safety

Explosion
Prevention and
protection

Hydrogen safety
research

Why?

Experimental test

Results

Future overlook...

Centre of Excellence for Safety Research

Conclusion



Why is this important?





Why is this important?

Still widely used in industry and households

In the case of fire present severe risks, including catastrophic failure

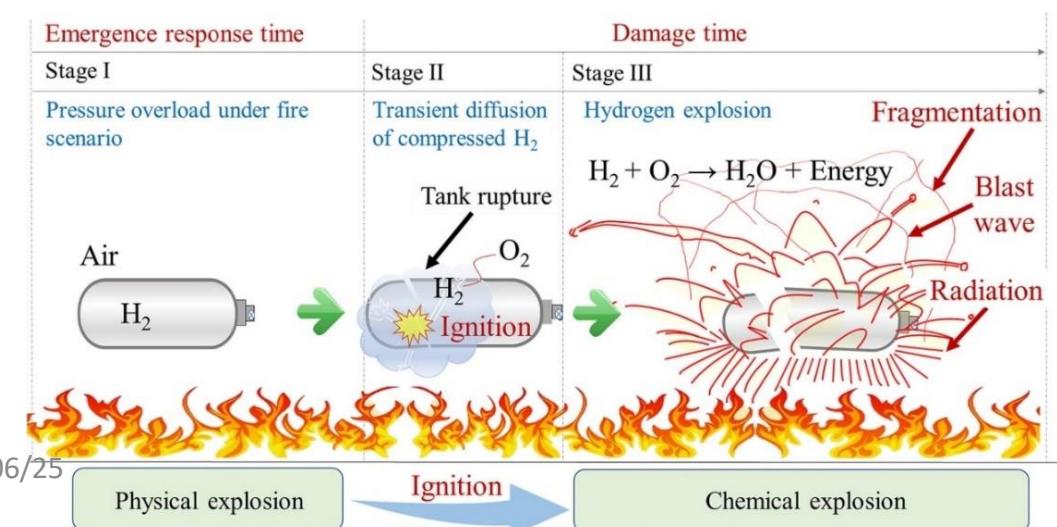
Hydrogen safety is increasingly crucial as adoption grows

Understanding high-pressure cylinder behavior (Hydrogen & Nitrogen) under fire conditions.

Assessing fragmentation and fireball formation.

Previous incidents involving cylinder failures.

Application in hydrogen-powered transportation and energy storage.



Experimental study

Hydrogen pressure cylinder

- 50 litres
- 300 bar

Nitrogen pressure cylinder

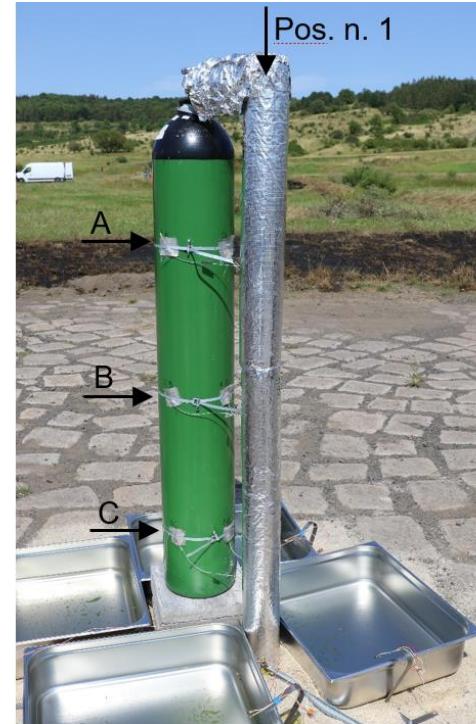
- 50 litres
- 300 bar

Fire

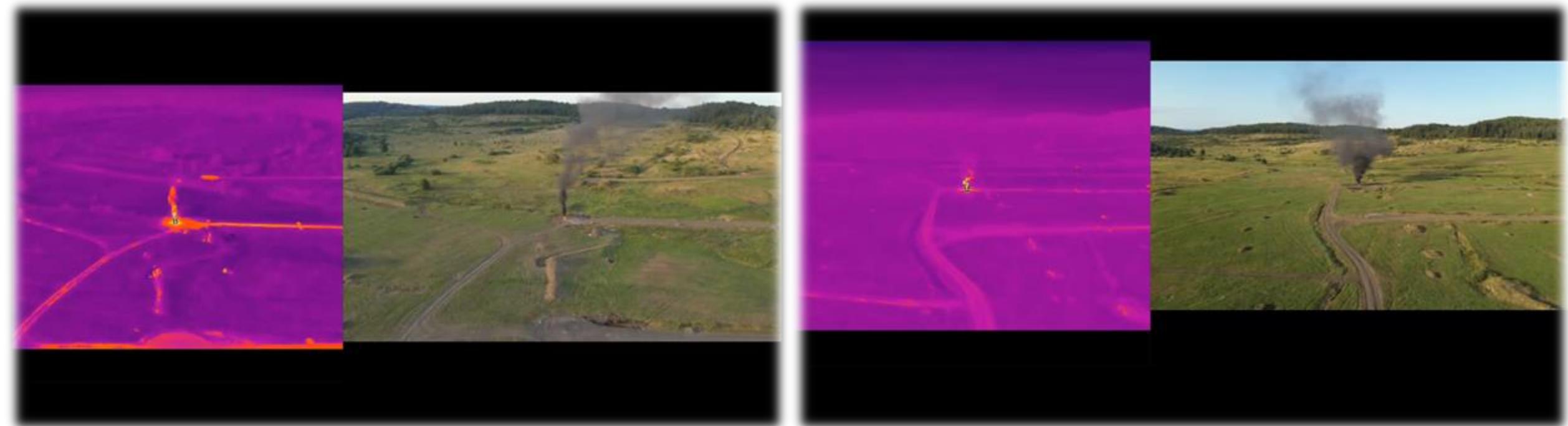
- 80 litre of diesel fuel
- 4 tubes
- Pyrotechnical ignition

Recording

- Shell's temperature
- Internal pressure
- Cameras, drones, thermovision ...



Results





33 ms



133 ms



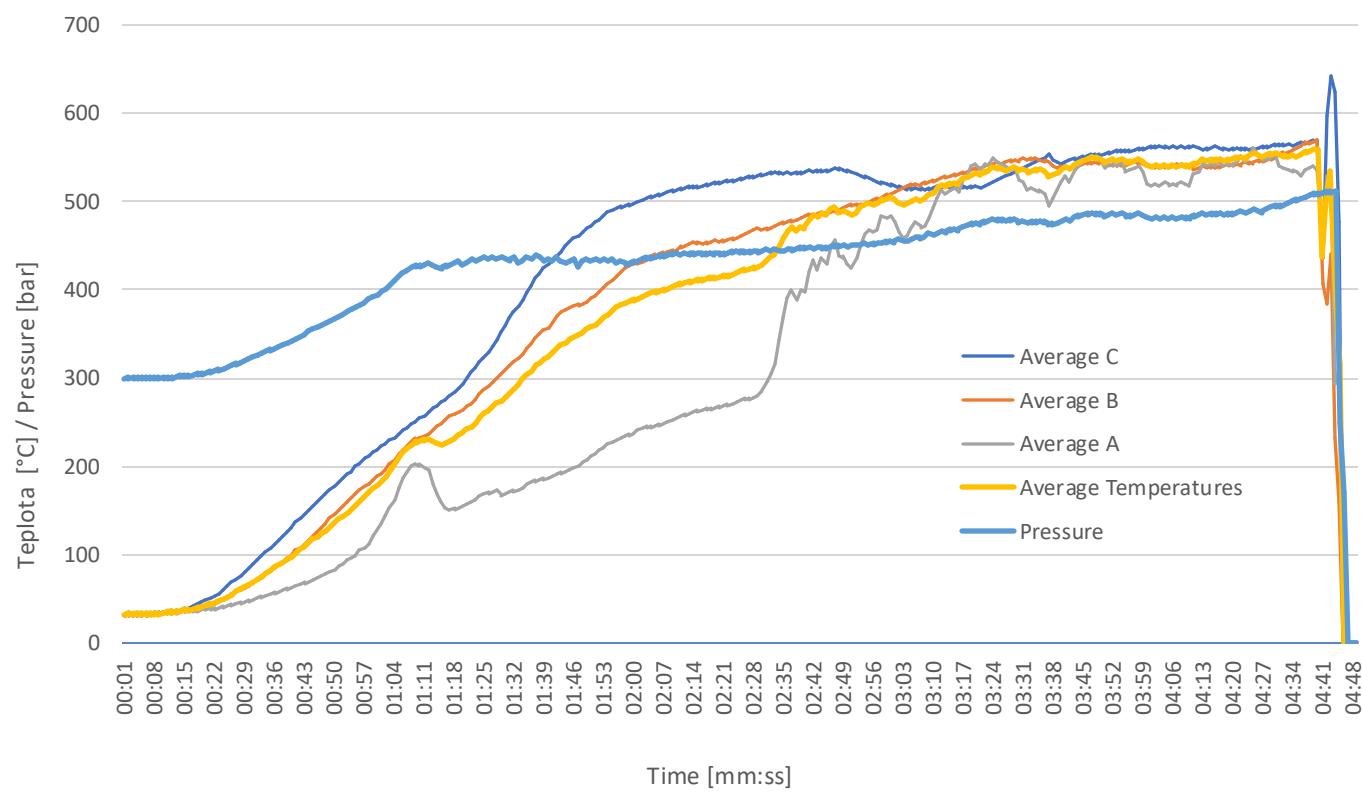
500 ms



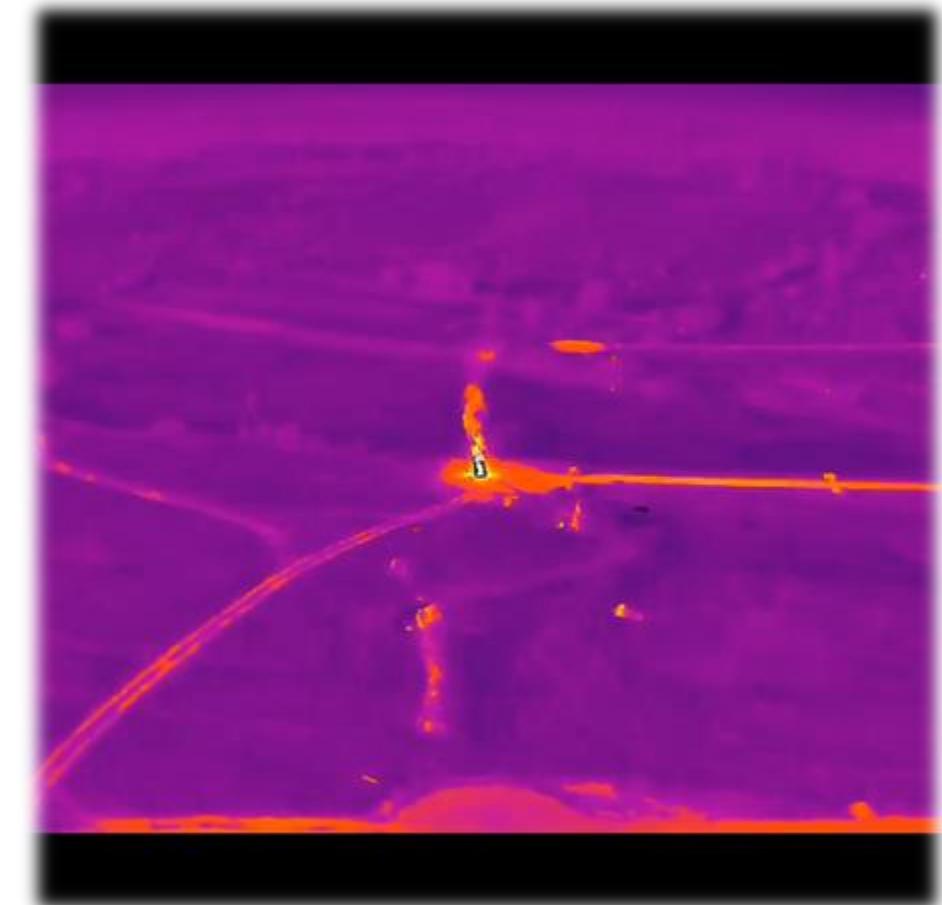
1533 ms



Hydrogen – temperatures and pressure



Pressure cylinder fragmentation



Safety and future



Safety and future





CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SAFETY RESEARCH

ERA Chair: Prof. Ernesto Salzano

Full Professor of Chemical Plant Design at the University of Bologna, Italy.
Director of Studies for Chemical and Process Engineering

Strengthening research capacity - increasing research excellence of FSE
Connecting with European research - participation in international networks, projects, and other initiatives

The multidisciplinary team will include international experts covering explosion protection, fire safety, risk analysis and crisis management and other expertises.

 CESAR
Centre of Excellence for Safety Research

Prof. Valeria Di Sarli

Dr. Rafal Porowski Dr. Sven Eckart

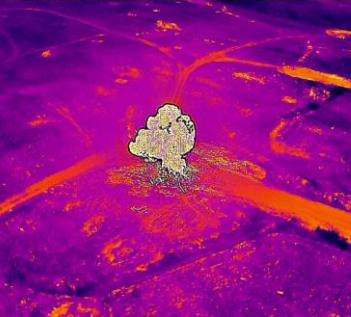
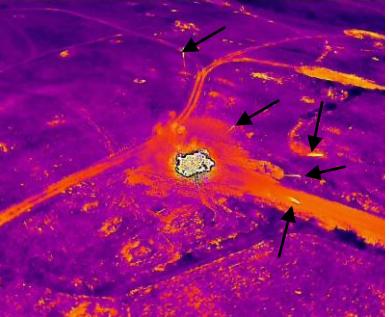
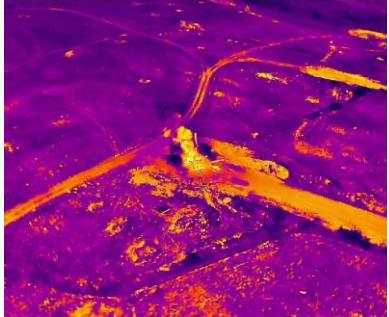
Dr. Stefan Spitzer Dr. Enrico Danzi

Young Researchers - Postdocs and PhD students will play a key role, receiving mentorship and career development opportunities through the CESAR initiative

Cooperation with a strong network of partnerships within academia and industry worldwide.

Project coordinator and VSB group leader – Dr. Vojtěch Jankůj

Conclusion



High-pressure cylinders pose a major explosion risk in fires.

Hydrogen cylinders result in extensive fragmentation and large fireballs.

Thermal imaging and high-speed cameras provide crucial insights.

Safety recommendations for industry and emergency responders.

Thank you for your attention



Vojtěch Jankůj, Ph.D.
vojtech.jankuj@vsb.cz



**Funded by
the European Union**

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or REA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.